

REMARKS

I. Introduction

In response to the Office Action dated September 14, 2007, claims 5 and 10 have been cancelled, claims 2, 6, 7, and 11 have been amended, and new claim 12 has been added. Re-examination and re-consideration of the application, as amended, is requested.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

In paragraph [10], the Office Action indicates that claim 1 is allowed. In paragraph [9] the Office Action indicates that the subject matter of claims 5-6 and 10-11 would be allowable if written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Applicants acknowledge the Office Action's indication of allowable subject matter, and have amended the claims to present them in allowable form.

III. Claim Amendments

Applicants' attorney has made amendments to the claims as indicated above. The Applicants are not conceding in this application that those claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the examiner. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

IV. Non-Art Rejection

In paragraphs (2)-(3), the Office Action rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph in that enabling disclosure is not commensurate in scope with the claims. This rejection is moot, as claim 7 has been amended to recite the features of claim 10.

V. New Claims

New claims 12 presented for the first time in this Amendment. Claim 12 presents the features of claim 1 in functional form. For the reasons described above, this claim is patentable over the prior art of record, and the Applicants respectfully request the allowance of this claim as well.

VI. Conclusion

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is now in good order for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner believe minor matters still remain that can be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to call Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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